

display 110, to be vertically rotated in accordance with the hinge 150. During such rotation, the protrusions 132 of the first body 130 would operate as legs in balancing and maintaining angled positioning of the display 110.

Referring now to FIG. 16, a cross-sectional view of the electronic device 100 of FIG. 15 along cross-sectional line A—A is shown. Herein, the securing element 330 of the coupling member 300 becomes disengaged from the recess 520. The coupling member 300 is moved from the first end 510 to the second end 540 of the slot 450. Thereafter, the securing element 330 is inserted into the second recess 550 formed by the second retention element 530.

III. Keypad Add-On

Referring to FIG. 17, an exemplary embodiment of a cover 600 being placed over some or all of the flat panel display 112 of the electronic device 100 is shown. In general, the cover 600 is made of a material that, when a force is exerted on the material, the electronic device 100 can detect what area on the flat panel display 112 that such force is exerted. For example, the cover 600 may be made of an acrylic resin.

For this embodiment of the invention, the cover 600 comprises a plurality of raised surfaces 610 positioned in a 4x3 matrix. Each of the raised surfaces 620–631 operates as a lens to magnify an image generated under the raised surface by the flat panel display 112. As an example, numbers 1–9 and “0” may be generated under raised surfaces 620–628 and 630 while symbols “*” and “#” may be generated under raised surfaces 629 and 631, respectively.

The cover 600 is securely coupled to the display 110 by a variety of locking mechanisms. As an example, the cover 600 may feature a locking aperture 640 at a first end 602 of the cover 600 and/or a locking aperture 650 at a second end 604 of the cover 600. The locking apertures 640 and 650 are sized with a first portion 642, 652 having a diameter greater than a second portion 644, 654. The locking apertures 640 and 650 are adapted to receive a fastener 660 and 662, respectively.

More specifically, the cover 600 is loosely attached to the display 110 when the fasteners 660 and 662 are both inserted through the first portions 642 and 652, respectively. However, when the cover 600 is laterally moved so that one or both of the fasteners 660 and 662 are now inserted through the second portions 644 and 654 respectively, the cover 600 is securely attached to the display 110 as shown in FIG. 18.

It is contemplated that the raised surfaces 610 may be configured in a number of orientations. For instance, the raised surfaces 610 may be configured to represent PLAY, STOP, FAST FORWARD, REWIND and EJECT buttons of a portable music device. Also, the raised surfaces 610 may be adapted with numeral buttons (0–9) and computation buttons (“+”, “-”, “/”, “*”, “=”), replicating the functionality of a calculator.

While certain exemplary embodiments of the invention have been described and shown in the accompanying drawings, it is to be understood that such embodiments are merely illustrative of and not restrictive on the broad aspects of various embodiments of the invention, and that these embodiments not be limited to the specific constructions and arrangements shown and described, since various other modifications are possible.

What is claimed is:

1. An electronic device, comprising:
a body case includes a first body and a second body, and the pointing device is integrated in the first body;

- a hinge rotationally coupled to the first body and the second body;
- a keyboard positioned at the first body;
- a display mounted on the body case for horizontal rotation and translation over the body case, the display substantially covering a footprint of the body case;
- a coupling member coupled to the second body and the display, the coupling member being adapted to horizontally rotate and translate the display, the display is horizontally rotated by the coupling member between a first position where the display covers the keyboard and a second position where the display exposes at least part of the keyboard; and
- a pointing device integrated in the first body of the body case, the pointing device being accessible regardless of the rotation and the translation of the display.

2. The electronic device according to claim 1, wherein the coupling member is a shaft coupled between a fastening element coupled to the display and a securing element slidably coupled to the second body.

3. The electronic device according to claim 1, wherein the display is horizontally translated by the coupling member between the second position and a third position in order to entirely expose the keyboard.

4. The electronic device according to claim 3, wherein the second body is prevented from rotation when the display is in the first position and the second position, and is released for rotation when the display is in the third position.

5. The electronic device according to claim 1, wherein the pointing device comprises (i) a pointer guide to control a position of a pointer displayed on the display, and (ii) at least one button positioned adjacent to the pointer guide.

6. The electronic device according to claim 5 further comprising a cover adapted to be coupled to the display, the cover includes a plurality of raised surfaces each operating as a lens to magnify an image displayed by a flat panel display of the display at a location on the flat panel display under the raised surface.

7. The electronic device according to claim 1 further comprising a camera positioned on the second body.

8. The electronic device according to claim 1 further comprising a holder for a writing instrument arranged on the second body.

9. An electronic device, comprising:

- a body case including a first body and a second body;
- a hinge coupling the first body and the second body, the hinge configured to enable the second body to be vertically rotated from the first body;
- a display rotationally coupled to the body case and adapted to be rotated and translated over the body case, the display having a flat panel display;
- a coupling member coupled to the second body and the display, the coupling member being adapted to horizontally rotate and translate the display;
- a keyboard associated with the first body, the keyboard being covered by the display when the electronic device is placed in a first position and being partially covered by the display when the electronic device is placed in a second position; and
- a pointing device integrated in the first body, the pointing device being accessible and remaining uncovered by the display for all positions of the display.

10. The electronic device according to claim 9, wherein the display is horizontally translated by the coupling member in order to entirely expose the keyboard when the electronic device is moved from the second position and a third position.